



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 June 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- NorthWestern Energy announced plans Tuesday, June 5, for a transmission line, called the Mountain States Transmission Intertie, running from Montana to Idaho, which it said could carry energy from developing wind power plants to power-hungry markets. (See item [6](#))
- The Associated Press reports an American Airlines flight to Madrid and a catering truck collided at Miami International Airport on Sunday, June 10, causing damage to both the plane and truck. (See item [15](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 12, Decatur Daily (OH)* — **Browns Ferry vulnerable to attack.** Suspended more than 60 feet above ground at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant — located on the Tennessee River at Athens, AL, approximately 30 minutes from Huntsville — three cooling pools contain more than 2,000 tons of radioactive material. If a terrorist attack or accident breached one of those pools, causing the water to pour out, fire or meltdown could make Decatur, Athens and even Huntsville, Alabama uninhabitable for decades, experts say. The Browns Ferry pools, built in the early 1970s, were not designed to withstand terrorist attack. “In those days, we weren’t thinking about suicide attacks and sabotage,” said David Lochbaum of the Union of Concerned

Scientists. He was a reactor engineer at Browns Ferry Unit 1 from 1980 to 1983. Scientists who have studied the issue concluded a spent-fuel pool fire would contaminate, with cancer-causing radiation, up to ten times the area contaminated in the 1986 failure of the reactor at Chernobyl in the former Soviet Union. The pools were designed to withstand natural calamities, including earthquakes, Browns Ferry spokesperson Craig Beasley said. "At the time they were built, the idea of an airplane, like we experienced in 2001, was probably not thought of," said Beasley.

Source: <http://www.decaturdaily.com/decaturdaily/news/070610/attack.shtml>

2. *June 11, Orange County Register (CA)* — **Nuclear incidents 'more than minor' at nuclear plant.** A dozen incidents at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in California last year were considered "more than minor" because they could have led to a significant event, challenged safety systems or affected workers' health. In the end, the incidents had very low safety significance, and no harm was done, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said. Overall, San Onofre gets good grades from the commission. Seven years elapsed between its last two major enforcement actions. But some neighbors don't trust the commission. Last year, radiation 16 times higher than that allowed in drinking water was found beneath the decommissioned reactor known as Unit 1. The commission called it "troubling" but said it was within radiation protection limits. Opponents say San Onofre's incidents illustrate a disturbing truth: Even the best of systems are run by people, and people make mistakes. An Orange County Register review of commission reports shows San Onofre workers: (1) Improperly labeled a container of radioactive material, which wound up in a chemistry-lab trash can; (2) Allowed debris to collect in water-storage tank enclosures, which could block flow in an emergency; and (3) Failed to promptly identify trapped air in safety-injection suction lines, which could damage emergency core cooling-system pumps.

Source: [http://www.ocregister.com/ocregister/news/local/countywide/article\\_1723500.php](http://www.ocregister.com/ocregister/news/local/countywide/article_1723500.php)

3. *June 09, Muskegon Chronicle (MI)* — **A 4,800-volt line snaps, jolts woman 200 feet away.** A Grand Haven Township, MI, woman feels lucky to be alive after her freak near-electrocution outside her home Thursday, June 7 — caused by a high-voltage power line that fell some 200 feet away when a tree toppled onto it. Marylynn Baker was thrown backward through the air, shocked unconscious and sent into convulsions by the distant downed wire after she stepped in a puddle near her swimming pool, she said. Baker suffered scrapes to her back from the fall and sore muscles. Baker said doctors monitored her heart for rhythm irregularities, which can occur in cases of severe electrical shock. Her 14-year-old son suffered a smaller shock after he ran out of the house to help his mother. He was unhurt. Consumers Energy Co. employees are investigating. The company had no immediate explanation for what could have carried the power such a great distance from the fallen line. The downed wire was a primary distribution line which carried 4,800 volts. "At this point our assumption is the primary line came down on something that energized either the pool, or something else she neared or was touching," Company spokesperson Tim Pietryga said. The incident happened during Thursday's high winds.

Source: <http://www.mlive.com/news/muchronicle/index.ssf?/base/news-1/1181384132318510.xml&coll=8>

4. *June 09, Kingston Whig-Standard (Canada)* — **Copper theft surges; hydro sites targeted in eastern Ontario.** Copper thieves are now targeting hydro sites in eastern Ontario, Canada. A

handful of Hydro One stations in Belleville, Brockville and Smiths Falls have all been hit in recent weeks. In 2006, copper thefts cost Hydro One an estimated \$1 million and the number of incidents continues to rise. "This is a very serious problem," said Chris Price, Hydro One's director of security. Hydro One has teamed up with Crime Stoppers to contribute \$10,000 to help raise awareness of copper theft and how the public can help identify the thieves. Hydro One says copper thefts at its sites have skyrocketed from 2005 to 2006. So far in 2007, there have been 80 incidences of copper theft across Ontario. Most of those have occurred in the Toronto area and west, but they're becoming more frequent in eastern Ontario. Price said thieves generally steal copper wire that's used to ground the fence around a transformer or distribution station, which is important to do because the fence surrounding the station can become live with a buildup of static electricity. "They're also stealing grounds that are buried." Source: <http://www.thewhig.com/webapp/sitepages/content.asp?contentid=564774&catname=Local+News&classif=>

5. *June 08, Daily Times–Call (CO)* — **Contractor slams \$1.1M transformer into overpass.** A \$1.1 million transformer being trucked from Wisconsin to Longmont, CO's new electric substation collided with an overpass in Iowa on Friday, June 8, delaying the station's completion. Workers at the substation near County Line Road and Colorado Highway 119 planned to install the 14-foot-tall transformer on Tuesday. That part of the substation project is now on hold while workers from Waukesha Electric Systems repair the transformer. The transformer was being transported by a private contractor working for Waukesha and hit an overpass near Dubuque, IA. "It is a highly unusual event for us," said Dave Goodwill of Waukesha. "They had a lead vehicle with a height sensor ... but apparently they had misjudged the height of this particular bridge." Because the transformers are built expressly for each customer, getting a new one could take months if the city had to wait for the normal manufacturing process. Source: <http://www.longmontfyi.com/Local–Story.asp?id=16797>

6. *June 08, Associated Press* — **NorthWestern Energy plans Montana–Idaho transmission line.** NorthWestern Energy announced plans Tuesday, June 5, for a transmission line running from Montana to Idaho which it said could carry energy from developing wind power plants to power-hungry markets. NorthWestern said it spent several years evaluating the \$800 million project, and believes more regional energy development will follow. If siting and environmental permitting go as planned, the project could be finished by 2013, the company said. The 500-kilovolt transmission line, called the Mountain States Transmission Intertie, will help pending power plants in Montana reach customers, the company said. "This is one of the first major transmission projects that we've undertaken since the mid-1980s and underscores our commitment to Montana and the region," NorthWestern President and CEO Mike Hanson said. The line would stretch about 400 miles, from either Townsend or Garrison, to southern Idaho. Towers would be around 110 feet to 130 feet tall. Source: <http://www.casperstartribune.net/articles/2007/06/08/news/regional/bbc27e82ccb2a40d872572f20064d558.txt>

7. *June 07, Financial Times (UK)* — **Biofuels no threat to OPEC, says IEA.** Biofuels will provide only a small proportion of the world's demand for fuel in the next decade, the developed countries' energy watchdog has said in an attempt to reassure the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) that the need for oil will continue to grow. Claude

Mandil, the head of the International Energy Agency (IEA), told the Financial Times that, even in the worst-case scenario for the oil cartel, there would be a “dramatic” need for an increase in production by OPEC. “OPEC has nothing to fear. Even in the most optimistic scenarios, the contribution from biofuels would be very small,” Mandil said. The oil producers’ group has become increasingly concerned about efforts in the U.S. and the European Union to cut oil imports. Mandil said that even in the worst case for OPEC, in which consuming countries implemented policies to curb oil consumption, the IEA forecast that global oil demand in 2015 would rise by close to 10m barrels a day (b/d), to 94.8m b/d. Demand for OPEC oil would be 38.8m b/d in 2015, up from about 31m b/d today, while biofuels would provide just 3m b/d.

Source: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/a4cd7272-151a-11dc-b48a-000b5df10621.html>

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

8. *June 11, Associated Press* — **Propane leak forces closure of 20-mile section of Maine Turnpike.** Officials closed down a 20-mile section of the Maine Turnpike for more than two hours Monday, June 11, after a propane tank overturned and leaked at a turnpike maintenance facility. The north- and southbound lanes of the highway were shut down shortly at about 6:20 a.m. EDT between Sabattus and Gardiner after the leak was discovered at the Maine Turnpike Authority's maintenance facility in Litchfield. Firefighter crews that were called to the scene shut brought the leak under control by shutting off the propane. The road was reopened to traffic shortly before 9 a.m. EDT.

Source: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2007/06/11/propane\\_leak\\_forces\\_closure\\_of\\_20\\_mile\\_section\\_of\\_maine\\_turnpike/?rss\\_id=Boston.com+%2F+News](http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2007/06/11/propane_leak_forces_closure_of_20_mile_section_of_maine_turnpike/?rss_id=Boston.com+%2F+News)

9. *June 09, Canton Repository (OH)* — **Refinery chemical release checked.** Marathon Ashland Petroleum and the Canton, OH, Health Department are investigating what caused a malfunction that triggered the chemical release that created a yellowish plume and rotten-egg like stench on Wednesday, June 6. Company officials said that at 6:15 p.m., a malfunction in the process used to extract sulfur from crude oil led the refinery to discharge larger-than-normal amounts of sulfur dioxide into the air for about 30 to 40 minutes. Residents in the area were not evacuated from their homes. Wednesday's release exceeded allowable levels for the vapor recovery unit, said Robert Calmus, Marathon Ashland spokesperson. No serious health problems were reported, said Canton Health Commissioner Robert Pattison, but people who live near the Marathon facility complained of a foul stench that forced them indoors.

Source: <http://www.cantonrep.com/index.php?Category=9&ID=359041&r=15&subCategoryID=>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *June 11, Washington Post* — **Navy picks 391 firms for Seaport work.** The Navy has added 391 contractors — nearly half of them from Maryland, Virginia or the District of Columbia —

to its multibillion-dollar Seaport Enhanced multiple award contract. The May 23 addition brings the total of contractors on SeaPort-e, as it is commonly known, to more than 1,300. Contractors on the list are pre-qualified to compete for tasks put up for bids by certain naval agencies. The contracts have a two-year base period and as many as eight option years. The Navy estimates that agencies could issue up to \$5.3 billion a year in orders under SeaPort-e. SeaPort-e's long list of potential suppliers give the Department of Defense an alternative to doing business through the General Services Administration's supply schedules, said Guy Timberlake, chief executive of the American Small Business Coalition.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/10/AR2007061001017.html>

- 11. *June 08, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-07-759: Defense Acquisitions: Analysis of Processes Used to Evaluate Active Protection Systems (Report).** Active Protection Systems (APS) protect vehicles from attack by detecting and intercepting missiles or munitions. In 2005, the lead systems integrator for the Army's Future Combat Systems (FCS) program sought proposals for an APS developer and design and to deliver APS prototypes on vehicles by fiscal year 2009. Raytheon was chosen the APS developer. At the same time, the Department of Defense's Office of Force Transformation (OFT) evaluated near-term APS for potential use in Iraq. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to review the Army's actions on APS/FCS: (1) the process for selecting the subcontractor to develop an APS for FCS and if potential conflicts of interest were avoided; (2) the timing of the trade study and if it followed a consistent methodology to evaluate alternatives, and the results; (3) the role the Army and Boeing played in selecting the developer; and (4) the process followed to provide a near-term APS solution for current forces. GAO recommends that the Secretary of Defense support additional testing and demonstration of APS systems to help develop tactics, techniques, procedures, and concepts of operations for active protection systems and provide useful data on the use of APS.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07759high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-759>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

- 12. *June 11, Security Focus* — Finalists allege hacking in \$1 million stock contest.** A handful of finalists in CNBC's Million Dollar Portfolio Challenge may have exploited a software glitch in the contest's trading system to pump up their stock gains. The contest, which awards \$1 million to the player whose stock portfolio records the greatest increases, had a software flaw in the trading system that allowed contestants to register stock trades before the 4 p.m. EDT trading deadline and then execute some of the trades later in the evening, BusinessWeek reported on Thursday, June 7. A number of contestants appeared to have used the technique to trade heavily in companies that announced earnings after hours, only buying stocks of companies that had positive earning announcements.

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/521>

- 13. *June 11, Security Park (UK)* — Hackers steal \$450,000 from Nevada's capital city.** Hackers have broken into Carson City, NV's general fund bank account and stolen \$450,000.



Investigators believe the hackers obtained the Carson City account log-in details after successfully uploading spyware to a city-owned computer. City treasurer Karen Avilla said she and her staff acted quickly after discovering the theft and, as a result, the bank was able to freeze 90 percent of the funds, although officials are still looking for the remaining \$45,000. While she was investigating the first transfer, Avilla said she discovered a second unauthorized transfer worth \$358,500, but that transfer was blocked at source. Commenting on the incident, Geoff Sweeney, CTO with Tier-3, said that the case is a clear illustration that conventional anti-virus and signature detection IT security software — as was used on the computer — is no longer enough. This conventional type of software is reactive only — which means that it can't detect malicious spyware nor the resulting theft. The loss must be detected by other means.

Source: <http://www.securitypark.co.uk/article.asp?articleid=27025&CategoryID=1>

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

14. *June 11, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-585: Motor Carrier Safety: A Statistical Approach Will Better Identify Commercial Carriers That Pose High Crash Risks Than Does the Current Federal Approach (Report)**. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has the primary federal responsibility for reducing crashes involving large trucks and buses that operate in interstate commerce. FMCSA decides which motor carriers to review for compliance with its safety regulations primarily by using an automated, data-driven analysis model called SafeStat. SafeStat uses data on crashes and other data to assign carriers priorities for compliance reviews. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) assessed (1) the extent to which changes to the SafeStat model could improve its ability to identify carriers that pose high crash risks and (2) how the quality of the data used affects SafeStat's performance. To carry out its work, GAO analyzed how SafeStat identified high-risk carriers in 2004 and compared these results with crash data through 2005. GAO is recommending that FMCSA use a negative binomial regression model to identify carriers that pose high crash risks. The Department of Transportation agreed that the use of a negative binomial regression model looked promising for selecting carriers for compliance reviews, but expressed some reservation about the greater sensitivity of this approach to problems with reported crash data.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07585high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-585>

15. *June 11, Associated Press* — **Plane, truck collide at Miami airport**. An American Airlines flight and a catering truck collided at Miami International Airport on Sunday, June 10, causing damage to both the plane and truck. About 200 passengers were aboard the flight to Madrid when the collision occurred Sunday evening, Miami International Airport spokesperson Marc Henderson said. There were no injuries, American Airlines spokesperson Tim Wagner said. Wagner said the plane was being pushed away from its gate Sunday when the collision occurred. "Nobody was injured on either the aircraft or the truck, but there was damage to the back of the aircraft and to the truck as well," Wagner said.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/plane\\_truck\\_collision.html?v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/plane_truck_collision.html?v=1)

16. *June 11, Associated Press* — **Allegiant signs fuel, pipeline deals.** Allegiant Travel Co., which flies between small cities and leisure markets, said in a regulatory filing Monday, June 11, that it entered into five-year fuel and pipeline agreements to better control the cost and availability of its fuel. Allegiant said a subsidiary entered into an agreement with Kinder Morgan Liquid Terminals LLC, and a shipper's agreement with Central Florida Pipeline LLC. Under the agreements, which will cost Allegiant a minimum of \$1.5 million annually, Allegiant will get exclusive use of a fuel storage tank in Tampa, FL, pipeline transportation of fuel to Orlando and shared use of a fuel storage tank in Orlando.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/allegiant\\_travel\\_fuel.html?v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/allegiant_travel_fuel.html?v=1)

17. *June 11, Associated Press* — **Officials investigating runway near miss.** Federal safety officials are investigating a near-collision between two regional airlines at San Francisco International Airport last month. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said Monday, June 11, it is looking into a May 26 incident in which an air traffic controller cleared a SkyWest Airlines jet for landing and also cleared a Republic Airlines flight departing for Los Angeles for takeoff on an intersecting runway. An automated radar system alerted the air traffic controller to the error, and the Republic Airlines crew was able to take off early, missing the SkyWest plane by 30 to 150 feet, according to estimates from crews of both planes in a preliminary NTSB report. Mark Rosenker, chairman of the NTSB, has urged the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to develop ground safety systems for large and small airports to protect passengers from runway crashes. The FAA has said it plans to adopt new rules that would make technology used to prevent runway accidents more affordable for airlines. Last year, there were 31 serious domestic runway accidents or close calls, compared with 53 in 2001, according to the FAA.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/runway\\_safety\\_investigation.html?v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/runway_safety_investigation.html?v=1)

18. *June 11, Associated Press* — **AirTran extends offer for Midwest Air.** AirTran Holdings Inc. on Monday, June 11, extended its latest bid for Midwest Air Group to August 10 to allow time for a new board of directors to be certified and consider the offer. AirTran has offered cash and stock worth \$389 million for the Milwaukee airline, which has repeatedly rebuffed bids for a takeover. A third of Midwest's nine members on the board are up for election. AirTran, operator of low-cost AirTran Airways, is confident their own slate of three nominees will be elected. Midwest said in response on Monday that its strategic initiatives, including a new code share agreement with rival Northwest Airlines, and efforts to increase plane capacity, offer shareholders more value. The company reiterated its call to shareholders to elect its own slate to the board.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/midwest\\_air\\_tran\\_extension.html?v=2](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070611/midwest_air_tran_extension.html?v=2)

19. *June 11, Aero-News Network* — **FAA issues \$40 million for ATL capacity expansion.** Hoping to improve safety and efficiency as well as expand capacity, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced it will be issuing more than \$40 million in grant money to Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (ATL). FAA Administrator Marion Blakey said the grants are an investment that will add "a little more horsepower to the workhorse of America's airports." Of the lump sum, more than \$7 million is earmarked for a runway safety area at the end of ATL's longest runway, 27R. The grant also includes \$7 million for Taxiway "V" that opened in April and \$8 million is to be used to repair the airport's aprons.

Source: <http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=31e7c34a-0>

20. *June 10, Associated Press* — **Santa Fe airport upgraded to allow regional jets.** The Santa Fe Municipal Airport's federal certification has been upgraded to a status that will allow it to service regional jet airplanes carrying up to 60 passengers. City officials were notified last month of the upgrade from Class 3 — which limited the passenger load to 30 — to Class 1 status for the airport. The Federal Aviation Administration's letter on the certification change said the airport could begin operating as a Class 1 airport Saturday, June 9. To qualify for the upgrade, the airport had to meet various safety requirements and deal with a long-standing prairie dog problem. Currently, only one commercial carrier, Great Lakes Airlines, uses the airport, which has struggled to keep commercial passengers using the facility at 10,000 a year. The new certification will allow regional airlines to fly into the airport. Airport officials estimate that there is a potential market of 80,000 passengers annually with the larger, regional jet airplanes.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-10-santa-fe-regional-jets\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-10-santa-fe-regional-jets_N.htm)

21. *June 10, USA TODAY* — **Flight attendants feel wrath of fliers.** Passengers today complain of poor treatment at the hands of airlines trying to cut costs, but flight attendants and other front-line airline workers say abuse is a two-way street. They say tension between airline employees and passengers is rising, and passengers are ruder and more volatile than in the past. Packed planes, flight delays, security hassles, and other factors already have made flying more unpleasant, and many airline employees are working harder for less pay than a few years ago. Angry confrontations between passengers and employees can delay flights, force emergency landings, or pose safety risks in flight. Milwaukee-based Midwest Airlines says it has noticed a trend. "Our customer service providers recognize the additional stress and tension of traveling today," says Vice President Mary Blundell. "Travel is not as easy and as pleasant as it used to be." As a result, Midwest is providing flight attendants, pilots, and ticket and gate agents extra training on how to better communicate with customers, deal with their problems and diffuse their anger when things go wrong.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-10-air-abuse-usat\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-10-air-abuse-usat_N.htm)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

22. *June 10, Associated Press* — **Researchers in search of fast poultry extermination.** Under industry and government rules, flocks infected with the strongest bird flu strains are put to death as quickly as possible. That's because if the disease spreads, it imperils both farms and the foods they raise. Some strains can also sicken and kill people. More than 23 million fowl have been exterminated in U.S. outbreaks since the early 1980s. Birds may be put down by electrocuting, gassing or chopping under international standards. Yet, in a virulent outbreak,



even these might be too slow and spare too many. So representatives of industry, academia and government have been looking for another way. For three years, they've investigated the fastest, cheapest and, they say, most humane way to dispatch birds en masse. After debating and field-testing, they say they've found an answer in an unlikely place. The new poultry-killing instrument of choice is foam. These soapy air bubbles, adapted from what firefighters use to smother blazes, can smother birds within minutes, with minimal contact between workers and infection. Supporters say this method saves precious hours and costly labor.

Source: [http://www.theeagle.com/stories/061007/nation\\_20070610026.php](http://www.theeagle.com/stories/061007/nation_20070610026.php)

23. *June 08, Columbian (WA)* — **Metal parts taken from salmon pens.** Thieves made off with aluminum components of a net pen used by the salmon conservation organization Fish First on the North Fork of the Lewis River in Washington state. The incident occurred sometime between Sunday, June 3, and Wednesday, June 6, when volunteers discovered two of the pens floating free in the North Fork and tubes of aluminum framing scattered around the Echo Park area six miles east of Woodland. The group released 60,000 summer steelhead from the pens a month ago, so they were empty when the thieves struck. The pens provide an aquatic way station between the close confines of the hatchery and the open river.

Source: <http://www.columbian.com/news/localNews/06082007news150888.cfm>

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## **Food Sector**

24. *June 10, FOX News* — **Beef recall expands.** A California meat supplier once again expanded a beef recall Saturday, June 9, to include a total of 5.7 million pounds of both fresh and frozen products because they may be contaminated with E. coli, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced. United Food Group, LLC, already had announced two recalls, on June 3 and June 6. But a recent positive test for E. coli in a patient in Arizona pushed the company to expand the recall. The tainted meat has sickened 14 people across the country — six in Arizona, three in California, two in Colorado, and one each in Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. All have recovered. The products recalled were produced in the two-week period of April 6 to April 20 and were shipped to stores in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,279916,00.html>

25. *June 10, Reuters* — **China finds excess preservatives in chili products.** Thirteen percent of all chili products in China have excessive amounts of preservatives, causing them to fail safety tests, the country's quality watchdog said on Sunday, June 10. The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine also found eight percent of dried vegetables and dried fruits had failed safety tests. The agency said it had inspected 46 chili products produced by 38 firms in 12 provinces and municipalities. The administration inspected dried fruit and vegetable products from 48 companies in six provinces and municipalities.

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUKT15020220070610>

26. *June 09, Associated Press* — **China cites problems with U.S. imports.** China said Saturday, June 9, it had rejected a shipment of pistachios from the U.S. because it contained ants, the

latest indication the government may be retaliating as Chinese products are turned back from overseas because of safety concerns. The state television report, which showed inspectors wearing face masks and sealing the shipping container that held the pistachios, indicated an increasing push to show that other countries also have food safety issues. In the report, China Central Television said the ants found in the pistachio shipment could "cause a serious threat to trees and to the ecological environment." Part of the batch, which arrived by ship to the port of Zhongshan, will be destroyed and the rest will be returned, CCTV said, without giving any other details. The report also showed U.S. safety certificates issued to Cal-Pure Pistachios Inc., based in Bakersfield, CA.

Source: [http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/06/09/ap/world/main29075\\_34.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/06/09/ap/world/main29075_34.shtml)

**27. *June 08, Food Safety and Inspection Service* — Texas firm recalls ground beef products.**

Tyson Fresh Meats, Inc., a Sherman, TX, establishment, is voluntarily recalling approximately 40,440 pounds of ground beef products due to possible contamination with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced Friday, June 8. The problem was discovered through trim sampling done by the company. The ground beef products were produced on June 2, 2007 and were distributed to retail establishments in Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. E. coli O157:H7 is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea and dehydration. The very young, seniors and persons with compromised immune systems are the most susceptible to foodborne illness.

Source: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_027\\_2007\\_Releas/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_027_2007_Releas/index.asp)

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## **Water Sector**

**28. *June 11, Associated Press* — Texas faces daunting challenge to maintain water supplies.**

Texas water law experts say the second-most populous state in the nation is running low on water. By 2060 the population is expected to increase demand by 27 percent while water supply is expected to decrease by 18 percent, according to the 2007 Texas Water Development Board's plan. If Texas doesn't implement the plan, officials say, about 85 percent of the population won't have enough water in drought conditions — at costs to businesses and workers at a projected \$100 billion a year. There are similar concerns nationwide. In 10 years, 36 states expect shortages, a number that leaps to 46 under drought conditions. About 15 private "water marketers" in Texas are working on projects that would allow them to pump rural groundwater and ship it to urban areas, said water developer and consultant Lynn Sherman.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/4879379.html>

**29. *June 10, Honolulu Star Bulletin* — Oahu drowning in water main breaks.** Oahu, HI's aging water mains break roughly 400 times a year — averaging more than one a day. The Board of Water Supply has a six-year plan to replace the aging and corroding water lines, though other factors, such as cost and resources, may prevent officials from doing so in a timely manner. Much of the more than 2,000 miles of Oahu's water pipelines are several decades old, with some still in use long after surpassing their expected years of effective service. The city has a six-year capital program lasting until 2012 that outlines the funding needed for pipeline and water facilities repairs across the island. The age of a main, the condition of the surrounding

soil, the system's design and the community it serves are all factors in prioritizing repairs for water lines.

Source: <http://starbulletin.com/2007/06/10/news/story03.html>

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## **Public Health Sector**

**30. *June 10, Washington Post* — Return of the white plague.** The rising worldwide number of extremely drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) cases may herald the end of a 60-year holiday from many common and highly contagious diseases that once routinely ravaged vast swaths of humanity. TB began to rise again in developed nations in the 1980s. The reemergence of TB has been most devastating, however, in impoverished nations, particularly ones where HIV/AIDS is prevalent. As TB cases have multiplied, so have the numbers of people either inadequately or incompletely treated — which, in turn, has led to the emergence of drug-resistant strains. XDR-TB has appeared 49 times in the U.S. between 1993 and 2006 and is of particular concern in Eastern Europe, South Africa and Asia. More than one-third of the world's more than six billion people have been exposed to the TB germ. Five to 10 percent of them, or at least 100 million, will develop symptomatic TB. Each will infect 10 to 20 people before they are either successfully treated or they die. Last year, active — and contagious — tuberculosis was diagnosed in more than 8.8 million people. Approximately 420,000, or five percent, of them have a drug-resistant strain; about 30,000 of these 420,000 cases are even more difficult to treat, the highly lethal XDR-TB.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/08/AR2007060802480.html>

**31. *June 10, Reuters* — Egypt: Ten-year-old girl becomes 15th bird flu victim.** Ten-year-old Mayada Tohami has become the youngest person in Egypt to die of bird flu since the first human case was recorded in the country in March 2006. Hers was the 15th death of the 35 human cases reported to date. Mayada, from Naqada village in Upper Egypt's Qena province, died on Sunday, June 10, from the H5N1 strain of the avian influenza virus, officials reported. Though Mayada first felt symptoms of the illness on June 1, she was not admitted to hospital until June 6 because of poor diagnoses. "In terms of diagnosis, she went to four different private physicians before she was finally diagnosed. This issue [bird flu] needs more awareness and attention from doctors in the private sector," said John Jabbour, International Health Regulations Officer and medical officer for Emergency Diseases, World Health Organization Cairo.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/a7547004e7b2bef0ed02acd389fb05f2.htm>

**32. *June 09, Associated Press* — Detroit hospital closing part of pattern.** Detroit's Riverview Hospital last week said it was losing too much money and already stopped accepting inpatients, though the emergency room will remain open for now. Experts say Riverview's decision to close fits a distressing, decades-long pattern of hospital closures in older cities across the nation. "This hasn't been happening in the suburbs and it isn't happening in Phoenix, where they can't build hospitals fast enough," said Bruce Siegel, a research professor at the George Washington University Medical Center. "This is occurring in older, urban inner-city areas."

New York City, Philadelphia and parts of New Jersey have seen waves of hospital closings in inner-city neighborhoods, said Siegel, who directed a 2004 report examining the phenomenon for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. But few cities have been hit as hard as Detroit. The number of hospitals in the city has dwindled to seven or eight from 42 in 1960, said Alan Sager, director of the Health Reform Program at Boston University's School of Public Health. Siegel's report warned that Detroit's safety net was already in a "fragile" state and could collapse entirely with further hospital closures. It said Detroit had lost more than 1,200 hospital beds with the closure of four hospitals since 1998.

Source: <http://www.abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=3262606>

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## **Government Sector**

- 33. *June 06, Information Week* — Department of Defense worker used computer to defraud government.** A former civilian employee of the Department of Defense (DoD) has pleaded guilty in federal court to charges he and four cohorts conspired to access a government computer to bilk the government of thousands of dollars. Jesse D. Lane Jr., who also is a former member of the California Army National Guard, pleaded to one count of conspiracy and one count of honest services wire fraud. He also admitted to conspiring with four other individuals to do the same, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. He faces a total of 25 years in prison. Lane, who will be sentenced on September 24, also faces three years of supervised release. Lane was arrested in March after being indicted by a grand jury in U.S. District Court in the Central District of California on one count of conspiracy, nine counts of honest services wire fraud, and one count obstruction of justice. Lane admitted that beginning in March 2005, and continuing through August 2005, he accessed a DoD pay-processing computer system and inputted thousands of dollars in unauthorized DoD pay and entitlements for himself and his co-conspirators. In return, Lane's cohorts kicked back at least half of the money they received to Lane.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=TVHB4JWENA3SEQSNDLPSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=199901812&articleID=199901812>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

- 34. *June 11, Post Star (NY)* — Changes coming to 911.** New York's Saratoga County has a new emergency broadcast system, commonly known as reverse 911, that will be conducting a test in the next few weeks. The emergency system works by calling all phone numbers in a specific neighborhood, ZIP code, region, county or specified call list with a recorded alert message. The service can place 133,000 calls in 20 minutes, said Saratoga County Emergency Services Director Paul Lent. Officials can track the outcome of the automated calls in real time, seeing which calls were answered by a person, which by an answering machine (in which case the system is programmed to leave the recorded message), which calls went unanswered and which were placed to out-of-service numbers. The county has not set a specific urgency threshold for

when use of the system is appropriate, but has offered municipalities guidelines in the form of sample situations it feels would warrant activating reverse 911. These include flood warnings, hazardous material spills, large-scale power outages, evacuation information, public health emergencies, drinking water alerts, serious weather events and notification of emergency workers to respond to an incident.

Source: <http://www.poststar.com/articles/2007/06/11/news/local/7d9638b4609a97d1852572f70012dda7.txt>

35. *June 10, FIREFIGHTINGNews.com* — **Storage tank now used to train rescuers.** A rusty storage tank once destined for the scrap pile at North Star BlueScope Steel in Fulton County, OH, has been converted into a new confined-space training facility. North Star employees, along with area firefighters, can use the tank to learn how to rescue victims from small spaces, such as a plant employee trapped in an elevator, a city worker injured in a fall down a manhole, or a farmer who tumbles into a grain silo. North Star pursued plans for a training facility after discovering that it would take nearly 90 minutes for specialized rescue teams to respond to certain emergency situations at the steel mill. In response to rescue concerns at the plant, North Star formed its own emergency-response team and then expanded the team to include fire and rescue personnel from the county. Initially, North Star sent firefighter and plant employee Steve Iler to Baton Rouge for a few weeks to participate in a "train-the-trainer program for confined-space and high-angle rescue," said Dan Bowles, North Star's medical-services coordinator. Iler now trains area firefighters as well as the plant's team members.

Source: <http://www.firefightingnews.com/article-US.cfm?articleID=32275>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

36. *June 11, eWeek* — **Yahoo Messenger flaw being exploited in the wild.** A high-risk Yahoo Messenger vulnerability is being exploited in the wild, jacking up the criticality of applying a fix to avoid system hijacking. At issue is a buffer-overflow vulnerability in Yahoo Messenger's Webcam ActiveX control. Attackers can exploit the issue to execute arbitrary code within the context of an application that uses the control—typically Internet Explorer, according to Symantec's DeepSight Alert Services. eEye spotted proof-of-concept code last week and predicted that a malicious exploit would soon follow. Sure enough, DeepSight has spotted an active exploit in the wild at "at least one" site: n.88tw.net. The exploit is put to work when an attacker crafts a malicious site designed to take advantage of the vulnerability. The attacker then lures victims to the site by sending the exploit code via e-mail or hosting it in a remotely accessible location, for example. When victims visit the page, arbitrary code runs in the context of their browser. If successful, the attacker then gains remote access to control the target system. Affected versions range from Yahoo Messenger 5.5.0 on up to 8.0.0 and those versions in between. Yahoo Messenger 8.1 isn't affected.

eEye Digital Security Advisory:

<http://research.eeye.com/html/advisories/upcoming/20070605.html>

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2144610.00.asp>

37. *June 11, CNET News* — **OpenOffice worm Badbunny hops across operating systems.** Malicious software targeting OpenOffice.org documents is spreading through multiple



operating systems, according to Symantec. "A new worm is being distributed within malicious OpenOffice documents. The worm can infect Windows, Linux and Mac OS X systems," according to a Symantec Security Response advisory. "Be cautious when handling OpenOffice files from unknown sources." The worm was first spotted late last month, but at the time, it was not thought to be "in the wild." On Windows systems, it drops a file called drop.bad, which is moved to the system.ini file in the user's mIRC folder. It also executes the JavaScript virus badbunny.js, which replicates to other files in the folder. On Apple Mac systems, the worm drops one of two Ruby script viruses in files respectively called badbunny.rb and badbunnya.rb. On Linux systems, the worm drops both badbunny.py as an XChat script and badbunny.pl as a Perl virus.

Source: [http://news.com.com/OpenOffice+worm+Badbunny+hops+across+operating+systems/2100-7349\\_3-6189961.html?tag=nefd.top](http://news.com.com/OpenOffice+worm+Badbunny+hops+across+operating+systems/2100-7349_3-6189961.html?tag=nefd.top)

38. *June 08, IDG News Service* — **Beware of fake Microsoft security alerts.** With Microsoft's monthly patch release expected on Tuesday, June 12, scammers are sending out fake security bulletins that attempt to install malicious software on victim's computers. The e-mail messages claim to describe a "Cumulative Security Update for Internet Explorer" that fixes a critical security flaw in the browser. It comes with a link entitled "Download this update." When users click on this link, they are taken to a server that attempts to install malicious software known as Trojan-Downloader.Win32.Agent.avk. This Trojan software then attempts to reach out to other computers on the Internet in order to install more programs on the victim's computer. Microsoft does send out notification e-mail when it publishes security bulletins, but the links in these alerts take users to the bulletins themselves, not to executable downloads

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/06/08/Beware-of-fake-Microsoft-security-alerts\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/06/08/Beware-of-fake-Microsoft-security-alerts_1.html)

39. *June 08, Computerworld* — **State's move to open document formats still not a mass migration.** Only 250 of the 50,000 PCs at Massachusetts government agencies are able to use the Open Document Format (ODF) for Office Applications, despite an initial deadline of this month for making sure that all state agencies could handle the file format. Bethann Pepoli, acting state CIO and director of the Massachusetts Information Technology Division (ITD), said last week that potential plug-in suppliers weren't able to deliver working versions of their software by last November as previously planned. According to Pepoli, the ITD did deploy an Office-to-ODF converter for Word text files developed by Sun Microsystems Inc. at some agencies in January. The ITD is working to install the plug-in at more agencies, but Pepoli said it now has no definite schedule for completing the rollout. State legislators in Texas recently quashed a bill calling for the use of open document formats—one of five such proposals that have been defeated or shelved in the U.S. this year.

Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9024160&intsrc=hm\\_list](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9024160&intsrc=hm_list)

40. *June 08, eWeek* — **Anti-spam orgs under DDoS siege.** Anti-spam forces must have hit a nerve with their adversaries. As of the evening of June 7, anti-spam groups Spamhaus, SURBL (Spam URI Realtime Blocklists), URIBL (Realtime URI Blacklist) and others have been under a "pretty big" distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack, according to the Internet Storm Center (ISC), which is run by the SANS Institute. As of 11 a.m. EDT on June 8, both SURBL and URIBL remained down when eWEEK checked, but Spamhaus was back up. This is an

extremely serious issue, as these types of attacks have succeeded in bringing down and, in some cases, permanently knocking out important weapons in the fight against spammers. However, ISC member Bojan Zdrnja noted this positive side of the current DDoS: Spammers must be desperate if they're using their resources to flood anti-spam groups rather than to send out spam.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2143566.00.asp>

41. *June 08, VNUNet* — **Worm points the way to Arabic viruses.** A seemingly harmless worm spreading around the world could point the way to an explosion in Arabic viruses, according to one security vendor. Masaki Suenaga, a security response engineer at Symantec, claimed that Arabic elements within the W32.Alnuh worm could be a test to see how users react. "W32.Alnuh looks like just an experiment by the author," Suenaga said on the company's Website. "After they have done their homework, they might step to the next stage to make a more complicated virus." Suenaga said that viruses not written in English usually target Chinese, German, Spanish, Portuguese or Russian users, as well as Indonesian, Japanese or Thai to a lesser extent. "There might be more Arabic-aware viruses in the wild than we think simply because many of us do not notice Arabic words, but we are seeing more Arabic-aware viruses than a year ago," said Suenaga. Discovered on May 31, W32.Alnuh spreads harmlessly and only terminates programs to protect itself.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2191697/worm-points-way-arabic-viruses>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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## Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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## General Sector

Nothing to report.

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